

LESSON
23

PRACTICE WORKSHEET A
Onomatopoeia

COPYMASTER

Directions: Read this excerpt from a popular song. As you read, look for examples of onomatopoeia. Then answer the items that follow.

MacNamara's Band

Oh, me name is MacNamara, I'm the leader of the band,
Although we're few in numbers, we're the finest in the land,
We play at wakes and weddings and at every fancy ball,
And when we play at funerals we play the best of all.

- 5 *Chorus:* Oh, the drums go bang and the cymbals clang
And the horns they blaze away
McCarthy pumps the old bassoon
while I the pipes do play
And Hennessey Tennessee tootles the flute
10 And the music is something grand
A credit to old Ireland is MacNamara's band.

—Traditional song published in 1870s

1. List 3–5 examples of onomatopoeia in the song.

2. Which onomatopoeic words might the songwriter have made up?

3. What overall mood does the onomatopoeia help create in the chorus?
